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LETTER DATED 1 APRIL 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, and further to my letter of 26 March 1991 (S/22401), I have the honour to bring the following serious Iraqi violation of the terms of cease-fire between Iran and Iraq to your attention.

Today, at 0300 hours (local time), forces operating from Iraqi territory attacked the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Khanequin Qasr-e-Shirin area. These forces, comprising of one complete brigade with full military equipment, killed and wounded a number of Iranian border guards and captured 35 of them before returning to Iraqi territory.

I further have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the note verbale No. 598/4142 dated 1 April 1991 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran, officially protesting this serious violation of the cease-fire.

As I have indicated in my letter of 26 March 1991 (S/22401), the details of other Iraqi violations of the terms of cease-fire between 2 August 1990 and 21 March 1991 will be brought to your attention in due course.

It will be highly appreciated, if this letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kamal KHARRAZI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Note verbale dated 1 April 1991 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presenting its compliments, hereby informs:

On 21 March 1991, in the meeting of the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the Chargé d'affaires of Iraq, the former expressed grave concern regarding concentration of Iraqi forces in the vicinity of Iranian borders. Furthermore, on Monday, 25 March 1991, forces operating from Iraqi territory carried out considerable hit and run activities along the boundaries of the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was also reported in international wires.

The Foreign Ministry wishes to inform further that today at 0300 hours (local time), forces, comprising of one complete brigade with full military equipment, launched an attack from within Iraqi territory against the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Khanequin Qasr-e-Shirin area. They withdrew to Iraqi territory after killing and wounding a number of Iranian border guards and capturing 35 of them.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in asserting the above violations of cease-fire, declares that the Government of Iraq bears full responsibility for these operations and their consequences. Secondly, the Government of Iraq, in accordance with international conventions, is responsible for safety of the captured personnel as well as their immediate and unconditional release.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran avails itself of the opportunity to renew the assurances of its highest consideration.

Hoping for the victory of the oppressed over the oppressors,

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Islamic Republic of Iran